2021

Home stories

An open love letter to homes of all shapes and sizes



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Spending all day in pyjamas and a commute that could be measured in steps. Step into the loft apartment of a couple you reconfigured their home for life and work. Read more on page 4.







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Welcome home

There is a lot you can learn about a person by stepping into their home: how they live, where they're from, what they love and (most important of all) who they are.

IKEA Home Stories is a love letter to homes of all shapes and sizes – from city-centre apartments to country cottages. It's a nod to the present, to what it means to be a part of our world today. And, of course, it's a tribute to people – to the many people, who live out their days differently around the globe. On the following pages, you'll step through the front door of three very different spaces, each telling the stories of those who call them home.



Where life and work meet

Spending all day in pyjamas and a commute that could be measured in steps. Working from home was the dream. But after a few months behind screens at the dining room table, they realised that they needed to think differently about their home. By creating designated zones, their open plan loft was cleverly reconfigured for both living and working. Now, they enjoy a productive workday from several spots, while switching off completely in the evening, revelling in some spreadsheet-free downtime.

EGENTLIG
Coffee/tea maker, 0.9L
$29.90

SKÄRIG
Wall clock
$24.90

EDSBRUK
Frame
W40×H50cm.
$19.90


FABRIKÖR
Glass-door cabinet
$249/ea
EKERÖ
Armchair
$199
STOCKHOLM
Coffee table
$399
STOCKHOLM 2017
Pouffe
$199
TVERSTED
Rug, low pile
$159

Hello sunshine
Natural light can be a little harsh at certain points in the day. Get rid of the glare without losing the benefits by investing in some blinds that diffuse sunlight.

VIRRMO
Floor/reading lamp
$39.90

“The workday is long, and the meetings are many, so before the couple get stuck in behind their laptops, they make sure to spend a moment together.”





The workday is long, and the meetings are many, so before the couple get stuck in behind their laptops, they make sure to spend a moment together. More often than not, this happens over a cup of coffee in their living room. After all, it’s precisely what they designed the space for: a corner of comfort and conversation, surrounded by the pieces they’ve collected over what feels like a lifetime together.



FÖRENLIG
Vase

$5.90

Function first
Introduce an overhead lamp or two to your workspace for a dedicated, concentrated light source - night and day.

TERTIAL
Work lamp
$14.90/ea

TJOG
Storage box with lid
$7.90/ea









They’d always had a “home office”, but it only really got a look in when work spilled into Saturday, or some admin needed seeing to. When they started working from home permanently, this seemed the natural place to start. They kitted it out with both wall-mounted and tall filing cabinets and introduced a standing desk. Originally intended as a second workspace, the standing desk has become the “deadline zone”, where either of them can come for a focused hour or two when crunch time looms. Something they’ve also come to appreciate is that productivity requires stepping away from their screens every now and then. Surrounded by stories, their library offers the respite they need – a quiet zone for some light digital detoxing between meetings.

“Multiple work zones around the loft mean they can move around freely, yet they still often find themselves together in the centre of their home.”





Multiple work zones around the loft mean they can move around freely, yet they still often find themselves together in the centre of their home, working away at the dining room table from an assortment of ergonomic, office and dining chairs. As a pair of self-proclaimed “foodies”, snacks have become firmly linked to productivity. Whether it’s a bowl of fresh figs, or something baked and fabulously decadent, bowls of treats are always to be found here during the day.

SVARTNORA
Pendant lamp
$79/ea

Oh so supportive
If you're sitting for hours on end each day, investing in a good chair will help give your back the support it needs.

MÖRBYLÅNGA
Table
$699


SKURUP
Work/wall lamp
$39.90
HEKTAR
Pendant lamp
$39.90/ea
MJÖSA
Pedal bin
$59/ea

“From taking turns to make the sixth round of coffee, to setting out a delicious lunch to share, this has become the hub of their two-person office.”





They had always wanted a social, open kitchen – one where they could cook up a storm but weren’t cut off from the early evening fun of their (many) dinner parties. Now that they work from home, they’re enjoying their kitchen in ways they never could before. From taking turns to make the sixth round of coffee, to setting out a delicious lunch to share, this has become the hub of their two-person office. With closed storage under the worktops and kitchen island, there is ample room for kitchen accessories and appliances. But not everything is packed away: hooks and rails offer easy access to pots, pans and utensils, and bring the space to life with a personal touch.

URSHULT
LED cabinet lighting
$29.90/ea

BILLY
Bookcase with glass-doors
$249/ea

NILSERIK
Standing support
$79

STOCKHOLM
Rug, flatwoven
$399

VIRRMO
Work lamp
$29.90

LAGKAPTEN/NÄRSPEL
Desk
$144

IDANÄS
Bed frame, queen size
Bedlinen and mattress are sold separately.

$399

PUDERVIVA
Duvet cover and 2 pillowcases, queen size
$119/ea

KIVIK
Footstool with storage
$295

Your ticket to a deeper sleep
Take your bed to an entirely new level of sleep time bliss with soft, layered linens and comfortable cushions and pillows.

“Their bedroom has now become a work-free sanctuary where the only task on the to do list is to have good night's rest.”





Something they realised early on is that when you work from home, it can be rather tricky to switch off at the end of the day. Always a calm spot, their bedroom has now become a work-free sanctuary where the only task on the to do list is to have good night's rest. While the physical separation of work and down time spaces has improved their sleep, thick curtains and a glorious, comfy bed help immeasurably too. Really, it’s been about making a space just for the two of them to wind down for a bit of cosy, cuddly time together.

TOFTBYN
Mirror
$49.90

FRIHULT
Wall lamp
$29.90/ea

√√ (Very good)
3.70 litres/min
BST-2018/024410/SET

GODMORGON
Wall cabinet with 1 door
$165/ea

GODMORGON/ODENSVIK
Wash-stand with 2 drawers and 2 Dalskär taps

$970

Embrace the height
Is room a concern? Then consider making the most of vertical space with a tall wall cabinet or two.



And with a splash of water to the face, another day begins. Working from home has both its advantages and challenges, but making space for varying work activities and shifting modes and moods can help get us closer to that ever-elusive work life balance. Take it from these two!



FÄRGRIK
Mug
$3.50/4pcs



TJOG
Magazine file
$7.90/2pcs



Let's get organised

Creating an organised workspace at home means you'll feel calmer, work will flow more smoothly, and you'll ultimately have a more productive day.

IKEA 365+
Carafe with stopper, 0.5L
$5.90



LIDKULLEN
Active sit/ stand support
$119



LANDSKRONA
Armchair
$829



KNODD
Bin with lid, 40L
$24.90



ALEX
Drawer unit with 9 drawers
$199



FRANSINE
Cushion cover
Inner cushion sold separately.
$12.90



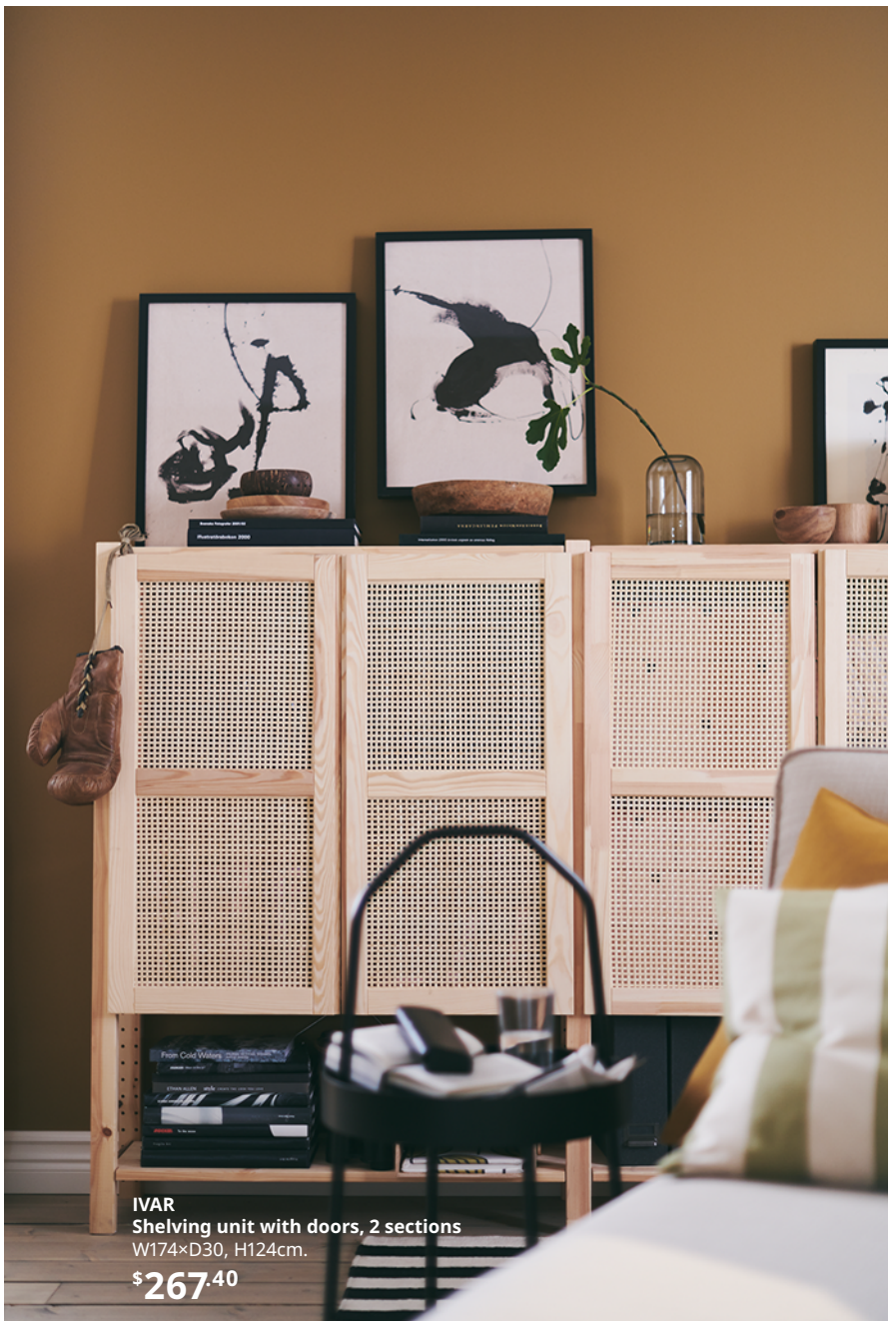
ENEBY
Bluetooth speaker
$79



BJÖRKÅSEN
Laptop stand
$39.90



TJOG
Storage box with lid
$7.90



IVAR
Shelving unit with doors, 2 sections
W174×D30, H124cm.
$267.40

Nothing more, nothing less

A young couple have taken a pared-back approach to their city apartment, their lives and – most recently – parenthood. For them, living with less is not about giving things up, but being super selective about what they buy and keep; a view unchanged since the arrival of their newborn! From flexible furniture to natural materials and timeless colours, step inside to see how they've brought their less-is-definitely-more vision to life.

STORSINT
Glass
$19.90/6pcs

Birch
These stackable stools in responsibly-sourced wood are a space-conscious idea for extra seating. Simple yet sturdy, they're designed to stand the test of time.

KYRRE
Stool
$19.90/ea

HILDAMARIA
Cushion cover
Inner cushion sold separately.
$6.90

“The same colours in every room tie the whole apartment together, creating a consistently peaceful feeling wherever you are.”





Stepping into this apartment feels like a long, satisfying exhale – and the colour palette is a big part of its calming effect. A rich caramel warms up the walls, with most of the furniture in light wood or bamboo. A few careful additions of black and mustard are mixed in for depth and interest. If the colour scheme seems strict, it’s for good reason: the same colours in every room tie the whole apartment together, creating a consistently peaceful feeling wherever you are.



Pine
Untreated solid pine is a durable material, making for a hardwearing, attractive addition to the home. Look after its surface with oil or wax and it will only get better looking with age.

IVAR
Cabinet
W80×D50, H83cm.

$150/ea

ROTBLÖTA
Wall clock
$49.90

NEREBY
Rail
$3.90/ea

NEREBY
Bag
$8.90/ea

Cotton-hemp blend
Housing their stationery and craft supplies, these bags are a breeze to pack and hang up when the table switches back to dining mode.

ODGER
Swivel chair

$169

SKAFTET
Floor lamp base, arched
$70

VIGDIS
Cushion cover
Inner cushion sold separately.
$14.90

BURVIK
Side table
$39.90

KIVIK
Chaise longue, Hillared beige
$495/ea

“This space goes to show that there are no rules when it comes to furnishing, and no single format that will work for everyone.”





They wanted a comfy spot where they could kick up their feet and enjoy time as a new family. Bigger sofas would be a tight squeeze in their smaller living area, so here’s where they landed instead: with two chaise longues side by side, end to end, in the centre of the space. Pulling the seating away from the walls created room for extra storage, as well as a display cabinet for their favourite (and most beautiful) things. This space goes to show that there are no rules when it comes to furnishing, and no single format that will work for everyone. This couple’s advice? Consider what you need, what’s important to you, and take it from there.









Even if sleep patterns have shifted since the arrival of a certain tiny roommate, the principles of comfort and calmness still hold true in this bedroom. Soft-on-the-skin cotton bed linen is a welcome landing come bedtime, while cosy, neutral colours crank up the serenity. The couple's minimised clothing collection makes picking outfits a lot easier, but also adds to the peaceful, uncluttered feeling of the room. Everything is neatly packed away in open wardrobes and closed drawers, easy to find and wear tomorrow.


REGOLIT
Pendant lampshade
$3.90
Rice paper
The diffused light of this handmade paper lamp adds a soft and cosy glow to the home.
SKURUP
Work/wall lamp
$39.90
GJÖRA
Bed frame, queen size
Bed linen and mattress sold separately.
$499
LOHALS
Rug, flatwoven
L230×W160cm.
$129


KLAPPA
Rattle
$4.90
LEN
Muslin square
$9.90/2pcs
SOLGUL
Blanket
$19.90
LENAST
Quilt cover/pillowcase for cot
$19.90



"Soft-on-the-skin cotton bed linen is a welcome landing come bedtime, while cosy, neutral colours crank up the serenity."





“Surrounding yourself with less can free up more time.”





HEKTAR
Pendant lamp
$39.90/ea

MOSSLANDA
Picture ledge
$12.90/ea

GAMLESJÖN
Dual-control kitchen mixer tap
$149

√√ (Very good)
5.60 litres/min
SKT/BT-2018/023502

IKEA 365+
Jar with lid, 3.3L
$11.90/ea

FRÖJERED
Drawer front
L40×W60cm.
$28/ea


FRIHULT
Wall lamp
$29.90
LINDBYN
Mirror
$89
BROGRUND
Wash-basin mixer tap, tall
$95
√√ (Very good)
3.80 litres/min
BST-2018/025098/SET
HÖRVIK
Countertop wash-basin
$135
GODMORGON
Wash-stand with 2 drawers
Handles sold separately.
$245

“Do you need it? Do you love it?
Will it serve you well for years and years?”





Simplifying their apartment has brought a number of unexpected benefits, this couple are pleased to report. While they might have less stuff, they’re also a lot less stressed. They have more free space, more time to spend with their baby and (bonus) more money in their bank accounts. But getting to this point didn’t happen overnight, and they’ve picked up a few lessons along the way. If you struggle to give things away, you could start by being more mindful of what you bring into your home. Do you need it? Do you love it? What material is it made from? Will it serve you well for years and years? Transform your mindset, and your home will almost certainly follow.



ÅSVEIG
Cushion cover
Inner cushion sold separately.
$9.90



HULTET
Dish
$8.90



RÖNNINGE
Chair
$135



KVARNVIK
Storage box, set of 3
$19.90



TILLAGD
24-piece cutlery set
$89



VÅRELD
Cushion cover
Inner cushion sold separately.
$7.90





GLADELIG
Plate
$15.90/4pcs



KAFFEBÖNA
Plant pot
H9cm.
$6.90



SMÅÄTA
Chopping board
$29.90

IKEA 365+
Jar with lid, 1.7L
$9.90



Down to earth cosiness

Do you think that making more sustainable choices is more expensive? If so, allow us to change your mind! These products made from natural materials show that the journey towards a sustainable home doesn't have to cost the earth.



VARDAGEN
Glass
$8.90/6pcs



MELHOLT
Rug, flatwoven
L195×W133cm.
$99



Time for something new

Settling down had never really been their cup of tea, but after many years of going where the wind took them, this mother and daughter wanted to make their latest move more intentional. Many mood boards, colour swatches and budget spreadsheets later, here's where they've landed: a cosy and curated farmhouse-style cottage, where the memories they've picked up along their many adventures are displayed for all to see.


RANARP
Pendant lamp
$49.90/ea
TOFTBYN
Mirror
W75×H165cm.
$99
TJILLEVIPS
Basket
$14.90
BERGSHULT/RAMSHULT
Wall shelf
W120×D30cm.
$42.90/ea
SNIDAD
Basket
$39.90

TORARED
Pendant lamp shade
$29.90

Easy breezy
The BACKSÄLEN armchair is super easy to assemble and disassemble, with a completely removable and replaceable cover to boot.

BACKSÄLEN
1.5-seat armchair
$395

KRAGSTA
Nest of tables, set of 2
$199

“The resounding feeling is warm and inviting – the perfect spot to put up your feet and have a good long chat.”





They may be new to the neighbourhood, but you’d never guess that when stepping through their front door. The resounding feeling is warm and inviting – the perfect spot to put up your feet and have a good long chat. Working with a light base and the already-white walls, they added darker furniture, traditional details and natural materials such as rattan, bamboo, cotton and wood. Not only are they more sustainable, but these materials introduce notes of softness into their home. From book clubs to lift clubs, everyone is welcome here.


NYMÅNE
Floor/reading lamp
$69
BUSKBO
Armchair
$179
GAMLEHULT
Footstool with storage
$129


BACKSÄLEN
3-seat sofa
$595
AINA
Cushion cover
Inner cushion sold separately.
$14.90
GRÖNADAL
Rocking-chair
$329
VOLLERSLEV
Rug, high pile
L230×W160cm.
$299



HEMNES
Glass-door cabinet with 3 drawers

$499/ea

GRÖNADAL
Rocking-chair
$329

“Many precious objects and artworks fill their home: souvenirs of the fascinating places and people they’ve crossed paths with along the way.”





While they have chosen to settle down for now, the colourful life they’ve lived is something they carry with them. Many precious objects and artworks fill their home: souvenirs of the fascinating places and people they’ve crossed paths with along the way. Glass-door cabinets have become home to all their books and most beloved finds – showcasing their collections, while also keeping delicate pieces out of harm's way and dust free.

UPPLAGA
Bowl
$3.90/ea


MOJNA
Pendant lamp shade
$29.90
Time to gather round
A round, extendable dining table softens the space, working just as well for game nights as it does dinner parties.
INGATORP
Extendable table
$549
INGOLF
Chair
$75/ea
NILSOVE
Chair with armrests
Chair pad sold separately.
$125/ea









As two capable cooks, they enjoy nothing more than stocking their pantry with the things they've created from scratch. From homemade spice mixes and jams to perfectly proofed sourdough boules, if they can make it themselves rather than buying it from the shops, they do. They've designed the kitchen to make the most of its dainty footprint. Separating washing, prepping and cooking zones means there is enough space to do it all at once without ever getting under each other's feet, and cupboards, drawers, shelves, rails, trolleys and jars take full advantage of both the vertical and horizontal space. While farmhouse-style kitchen fronts give the kitchen its countryside feel, smaller pieces – like pots, glassware and wooden chopping boards – add pinches of flavour throughout.

NYMÅNE
Work/wall lamp
$99

VARDAGEN
Jar with tap
$29.90

BLANDA MATT
Serving bowl
Ø12cm.
$9.90/ea

MARIATHERES
Tea towel
$9.90/2pcs

JONAXEL
Shelving unit
W80×D38,H160cm.
$59

GEMAK
Colander
$19.90

VARDAGEN
Measuring jug, 0.5L
$4.90

HULTARP
Rail
Hooks sold separately.
$7.90


METOD/STENSUND
Wall cabinet with shelves
Cover panel and knobs sold separately.
$87
HAVSEN
Sink bowl, 2 bowls
with visible front
$300

A room in a room
A curtain divides the wardrobe area from the rest of the room to create a concealed dressing area, while adding a feeling of calm and order to the space.

DYTÅG
Curtains, 1 pair
$79

IDANÄS
Wardrobe
$599

IDANÄS
Bed frame, queen size
Mattress and bedlinen sold separately.
$399

“Their bedrooms are where they retreat from a little breathing space – each reflecting who they are while still fitting in snuggly with the feel of the home.”





As much as they love time together, they enjoy their own space too. Long baths are had in their glorious, vintage tub, but more often than not, their bedrooms are where they retreat for a little breathing space – each reflecting who they are while still fitting in snuggly with the feel of the home. For a mother who's on her feet most of the day, busy life inspired her to create a realm for calm. The upholstered bed is set in a rather unconventional position, floating in the middle of the room. It puts comfort front and centre (literally) but also makes space for the wardrobe area behind. This truly is her space: ready for some morning outfit picking, afternoon relaxing, evening reading and night-time dreaming.



"This truly is her space: ready for some morning outfit picking, afternoon relaxing, evening reading or night-time dreaming."

TOFTBYN
Mirror
W65×H85cm.
$49.90

HEMNES
High cabinet with glass door
$219

√√ (Very good)
2.90 litres/min
BST-2020/030506/SET

HIMLEÅN
Hand towel
$7.90 /ea

HEMNES/RÄTTVIKEN
Wash-stand with 2 drawers and Runskär tap
$765

“They’ve made a space where they can have it all: a community of family and friends and a quaint little cottage to call their own.”





Though not the biggest of spaces, the daughter’s room really does it all. It comes down to space-saving furniture that serves more than one function: like a loft bed with built-in storage and desk space, a side table and drawer unit in one, and a day bed that works for weekend sleepovers too.

For this family, home has always been more about people and experiences than walls and roof. Now, for the first time, they’ve made a space where they can have it all: a community of family and friends and a quaint little cottage to call their own.



Every which way smartness
Sleeping, working and storage all in one: the SMÅSTAD loft bed makes the most of the smallest of spaces.

ÖRFJÄLL
Swivel chair
$59

SMÅSTAD
Loft bed with desk with 4 drawers
$749

TOFTLUND
Rug
$19.90

TJENA
Box with lid
L35×W32, H32cm.
$9.90



STURSK
Wall clock
$39.90



FULLTALIG
Candlestick, set of 3
$17.90

Natural materials, naturally

Black and white is a classic for a reason, but on their own they can be a little cold. Warm up a space by introducing natural materials like wood, jute, rattan and cotton. Now that's what we call cosy!

TJILLEVIPS
Basket
$14.90







ODGER
Chair
$95



HELLESTED
Rug, flatwoven
L150×W80cm.
$69



VANLIGEN
Tealight holder
$1.90

STRIMMIG
Serving plate
$13.90





GURLI
Cushion cover
Inner cushion sold separately.
$7.90



GAMLEHULT
Footstool with storage
$129

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KORKEN
Jar with lid, 1.8L

$3.90 /ea

For more everyday inspiration
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